



Show your support during Nurses Week.

This week, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) would like to extend a special thank you to our nurses for the unparalleled care they provide our Nation's Veterans.

Here are a few fun facts about Nurses Week and VA nurses specifically that illustrate how their contributions, innovations and service are an invaluable part of the care VA provides.

Happy Nurses Week!

We salute your efforts every day.

1820

Florence Nightingale's birthday is

May 12th

"National Nurses Week"

was first observed in

1954

1982

President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation that a

"National Recognition Day for Nurses"

is to be celebrated on **May 6th**.

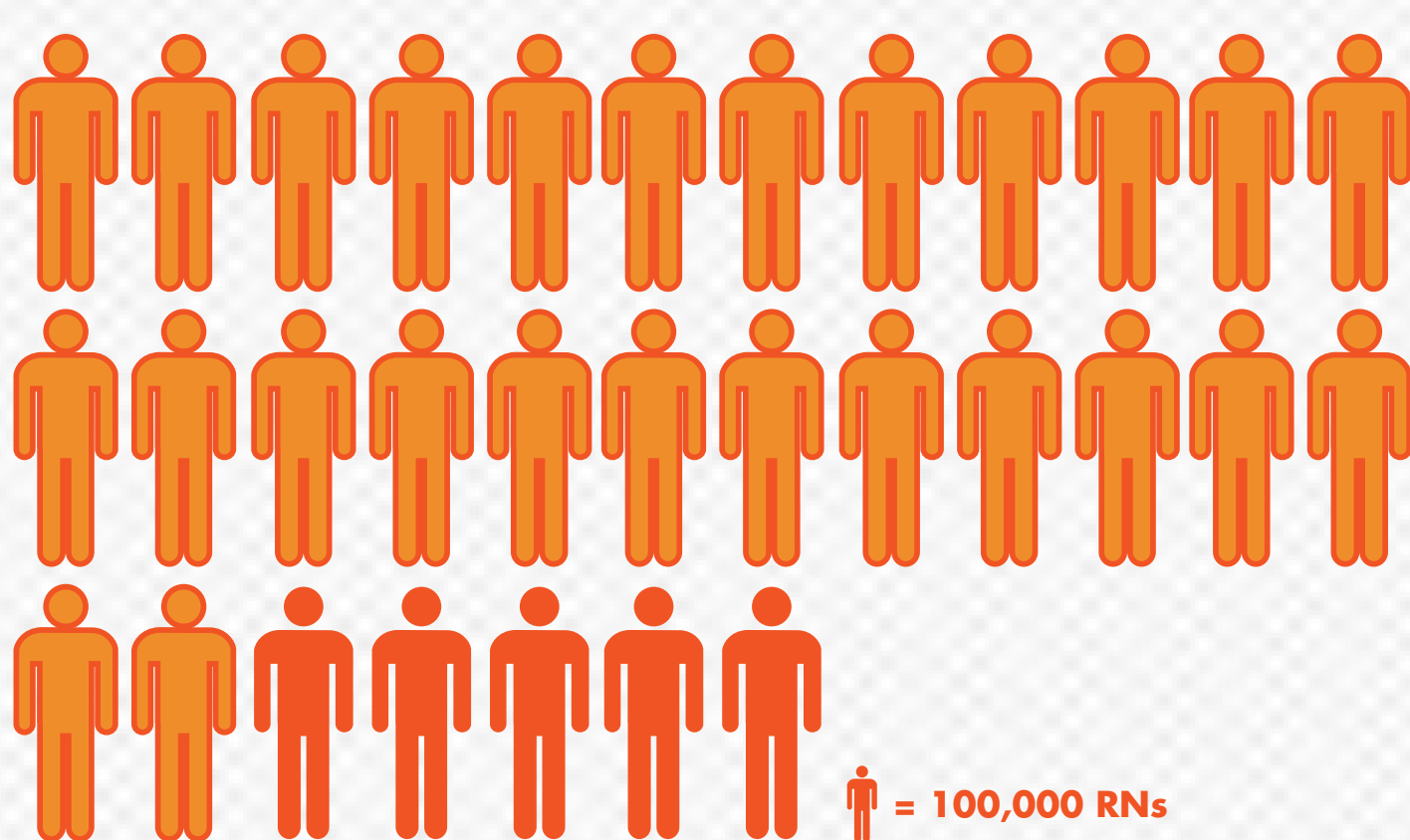
2013

National Nurses Week

IS CELEBRATED

May 6th - May 12th

The U.S. has 3.1 million LICENSED RNs



2.6 million

are actively employed in nursing.



VA nurses provide inpatient care to about

650,000 Veterans

and manage more than

75 million

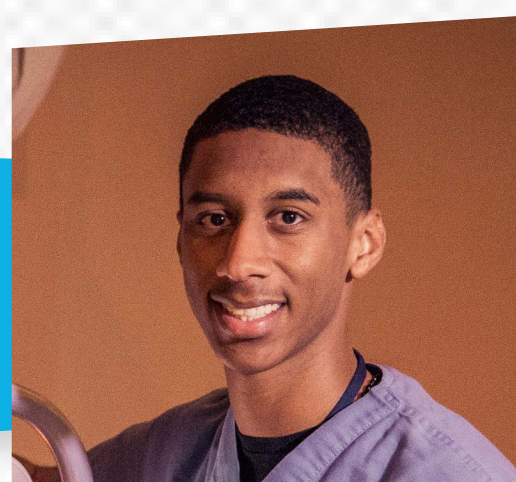
outpatient visits each year.

VA is the largest employer of nurses in the Nation, with

more than

80,000

RNs, LPNs/LVNs, and nursing assistants.



Considered the

"Mother of Modern Nursing,"

Florence Nightingale

founded the first secular nursing school in the world, now a part of **King's College London.**

A VA nurse invented the Bar Code Medication Administration (BCMA) system, our most rapidly adopted technology to date.



VA nurses provide medical care backup to military hospitals during national emergencies.



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration